



Lowell City Council

Arts/Culture SC Meeting Minutes

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

Date: July 27, 2021
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: City Council Chamber
375 Merrimack Street, 2nd Floor, Lowell, MA

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were C. Nuon, C. Mercier, C. Samaras. Also present were Sen. Edward Kennedy and staff (Jen Myers, James Ostis); Sara Begosian (Whistler House); C. Rourke; C. Elliott; and C. Conway.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

C. Nuon noted meeting agenda and called meeting to order noting participants.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

C. Nuon recognized Sen. Kennedy who proceeded to outline proposed act (Commonwealth Cultural Act) and commented on his involvement of the art and cultural issues facing the Commonwealth while chairing the committee in the Senate tasked with addressing cultural issues. Sen. Kennedy noted that there must be an effort to reestablish the art and cultural communities that were negatively affected by the pandemic and that there is federal relief money designated for that task. Sen. Kennedy noted Council endorsement of the act as well as other agencies endorsement of same. Ms. Begosian noted the effort of the group working through these issues with the Senate identifying the members and the expertise of the groups. C. Nuon noted the importance of the arts and culture to the community especially in Lowell. C. Mercier noted the significant amount of money attached to the act that will assist in rebuilding and rebranding the art/cultural community in the City. Sen. Kennedy noted the money that is expected and the report formulated by working group that addresses the identified needs. C. Samaras noted the importance to be connected to federal funding and the art/cultural community should develop relationship with business community in City. **Motion** by C. Samaras, seconded by C. Mercier to request City Manager develop a committee to address how Lowell may move forward by joining the art/cultural community with the business community to preserve and rebuild art culture in Lowell. Adopted per Roll Call vote, 3 yeas. So voted. Sen. Kennedy stated he would provide report to City and provide any assistance that is needed. Ms. Begosian commented on the current status of the art/cultural community in Lowell.



ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by C. Mercier, seconded by C. Samaras. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk
